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WASHOE COUNTY SHERIFF

FAA-2000-8182-21

Dennis Balaam
Sheriff



Dedicated Service in Partnership with our Community

September 11, 2002

U.S. Department of Transportation
Attn: Docket Management System
400 7th Street, SW, Room PL-400
Washington, D.C. 20591 - 0001

Re: REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF EXEMPTION NO. 7473 FOR 14 CFR 61.113(E)
(Docket No. FAA-2000-8182)

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office is again requesting an exemption from 14 CFR 61.113(E) of the Federal Aviation Regulations to the extent necessary to permit those members of the Sheriff's Air Squadron to be reimbursed for fuel, oil, and maintenance costs that are occur during official search missions.

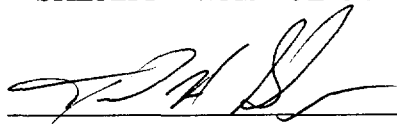
We also request an amendment to **Exemption No. 7473**, which would allow the Sheriff's Air Squadron to transport personnel and equipment to the scene of a rescue. Washoe County measures approximately 40 miles wide by 150 miles long, covering over 6,608 square miles. There is one paved road, which runs approximately two thirds the length, and the remaining area is accessible only by improved dirt road or by air. Since rescues are emergencies, which are not planned, there is normally not enough time to locate a commercial transport and still conduct a rescue in time to save lives. The Sheriff's Air Squadron has the aircraft and availability to perform this emergency function in a timely manner.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at
(775) 328-2196 voice or (775) 325-6912 fax.

Thank you for your time and consideration of these matters.

*DENNIS A. BALAAM,
SHERIFF - WASHOE COUNTY

By: _____


Tim Graham, Deputy
Search & Rescue Operations



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

800 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20591

MAR 26 2001

Exemption No. 7473
Regulatory Docket No. FAA-2000-8182

Deputy Tim Graham
Search & Rescue Operations
Washoe County Sheriff's Office
911 Parr Boulevard
Reno, NV 89512-1000

Dear Deputy Graham:

We have received the May 1, 2000, petition from Sergeant Todd A. Vinger, and the supplemental information dated December 28, 2000, from Deputy Tim Graham, on behalf of the Washoe County Sheriff's Office (Sheriff's Office) for an extension of and amendment to Exemption No. 6836, from § 61.113(e) of Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR). This extension, if granted, would allow members of the Washoe County Sheriff's Air Squadron (Air Squadron) who hold private pilot certificates to continue to be reimbursed for fuel, oil, and maintenance expenses incurred while performing search and location missions for the Sheriff's Office. Because Exemption No. 6836 expired on October 27, 2000, the FAA is addressing your request as a new petition for exemption. Additionally, you request an amendment that would allow the Air Squadron to transport personnel and equipment to the scene of a rescue. As discussed in a February 9, 2001, telephone conversation between Deputy Tim Graham and Mr. Forest Rawls III, FAA Office of Rulemaking, the FAA will address this request for amendment as a separate request.

In your current petition, you indicate that the conditions and reasons regarding public interest and safety, presented in your original petition upon which the exemption was granted, remain unchanged. In Grant of Exemption Nos. 6836 (copy enclosed), the FAA determined that, for the purposes of that grant of exemption, the Air Squadron was authorized to conduct only search and location missions for the Sheriff's Office. A search and location operation is defined as a flight or series of flights authorized by the Sheriff's Office to search for lost or injured persons and to communicate the location of the lost or injured persons to the Sheriff's Office. Furthermore, the FAA determined that all administrative flights or flights not associated directly with search and location operations would not be permitted under authority of that exemption.

AFS-01-123-E

Having reviewed your current reasons for requesting an exemption, I find that they do not differ materially from those presented in your original grant of exemption. In addition, I have determined that the reasons stated by the FAA for granting your original exemption also apply to the situation you currently present.

In consideration of the foregoing, I find that a grant of exemption is in the public interest. Therefore, pursuant to the authority contained in 49 U.S.C. §§ 40113 and 44701, delegated to me by the Administrator, Washoe County Sheriff's Office is granted an exemption from 14 CFR § 61.113(e) to the extent necessary to allow members of the Washoe County Sheriff's Air Squadron who hold private pilot certificates to continue to be reimbursed for fuel, oil, and maintenance expenses incurred while performing search and location missions for the Sheriff's Office, subject to the following conditions and limitations:

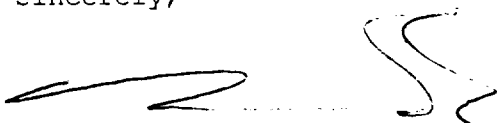
1. This exemption applies only to search and location missions that are authorized specifically by the Sheriff's Office.
2. Reimbursement for fuel and oil must be limited to the actual amount expended and must be documented properly by a purchase receipt with an itemized listing of the amount and cost of all fuel and oil expenses. Reimbursement for maintenance expenses must be limited to those costs directly related to the operation of the aircraft for official missions. These maintenance costs must be documented properly by a purchase receipt with an itemized listing of the description and cost of all maintenance expenses. The normal recurrent inspections and basic preventive maintenance of the aircraft are not covered by this exemption as reimbursable expenses.
3. The Air Squadron must maintain a current and accurate record of each pilot operating under the terms of this exemption. The pilot's logbook is not acceptable for this record. Each record must include the name of the pilot, facsimiles of the individual's pilot and medical certificates, the make and model of each aircraft, the itinerary and total time of each flight, and the purchase receipts with an itemized listing of the amount and cost of all fuel, oil, and maintenance expenses incurred while performing flights under the terms and conditions of this exemption.
4. The records required under Condition No. 3 must be retained by the Air Squadron for at least 1 year and must be presented to the Administrator upon request.
5. Operations conducted under this exemption must be restricted to searching for victims or potential victims, as determined by the Sheriff's Office, and reporting the location of these victims.

6. Flightcrews must be restricted to the pilot and the minimum number of essential personnel required for performing observation, map reading, and communications duties.
7. All administrative flights or flights not directly associated with search and location operations are not permitted under the authority of this exemption.
8. The Sheriff's Office must ensure that all of its supervisory personnel and all Air Squadron pilots who operate under the authority of this exemption are familiar with the provisions contained herein.

Please note the FAA has assigned a new docket number to this project (Docket No. FAA-2000-8182; previously Docket No. 25886). In an effort to allow the public to participate in tracking the FAA's rulemaking activities, we have transitioned to the Department of Transportation's Internet-accessible Docket Management System, located at <http://dms.dot.gov>. This new system enables interested persons to submit, view, and download requests to the Docket Management System in accordance with 14 CFR § 11.63

This exemption terminates on March 31, 2003 , unless sooner superseded or rescinded.

Sincerely,



L. Nicholas Lacey
Director, Flight Standards Service